

Student Corner
08/06/2021
Author: Megan Caldwell

Student Corner is a weekly blog about the weather in eastern New York, western New England, and beyond. It is maintained by Pathways Student Megan Caldwell.

Heat waves have been impacting people around the globe this past week. In the NWS Albany service area, the maximum heat index hovered around 105 in parts of Albany, Dutchess, Saratoga, and Windham [counties](#). New York City saw their maximum heat index rise to 110 while Washington D.C and Baltimore reported high temperatures of 106 and 109 respectively.

Throughout the Midwest and the Mississippi Valley, temperatures also soared. August 10th saw heat advisories from as far north as southern Michigan and Wisconsin to as far south as northern Louisiana. Recent thunderstorms toppled trees and powerlines, leaving many throughout the Great Lakes region without power.

Further west, the Northwest is again suffering under oppressive heat with temperatures expected to be nearly 20 degrees warmer than usual. While the Northwest heat wave is not expected to be as bad as the one in late June and early July, it will still impact a region that does not normally need air conditioning in private homes. The hot weather also increased the risk for wildfires in Northern California.

The hot weather has not been limited to the United States either. Around the Mediterranean in Europe and North Africa, the Italian media is calling a persistent high-pressure system 'Lucifer' due to the oppressive heat and the currently burning wildfires. On the island of Sicily, authorities have reported what may be Europe's new all-time heat record at 119.8 degrees Fahrenheit (or 48.8 degrees Celsius). This temperature will need to be officially verified by the World Meteorological Organization.

Heat is one of the leading weather-related killers in the United States, so it is important to [take caution](#) during heat advisories and excessive heat events. Make sure to stay cool during heat waves. Drink plenty of water. Monitor yourself and loved ones for signs of heat-related illnesses, especially those who belong to vulnerable populations. Never leave children or pets unattended in hot cars.